

Minutes of the Health & Human Services Board & Committee

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Chairs Brandtjen and Farrell called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Janel Brandtjen, Jim Jeskewitz, Gilbert Yerke, Kathleen Cummings, Peter Wolff, Mike Inda, and Pauline Jaske. Wolff left the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and Inda left at 2:26 p.m.

Board Members Present: Citizen Members Dennis Farrell, Joe Vitale, Dr. Peter Geiss, Mike O'Brien, and Supervisors Duane Paulson, Janel Brandtjen, and Jim Jeskewitz. **Absent:** Citizen Member Flor Gonzalez and Supervisor Paul Decker.

Also Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Sarah Spaeth, Health & Human Services Deputy Director Antwayne Robertson, Health & Human Services Director Peter Schuler, Administration Director Norm Cummings, Senior Financial Analysts Bill Duckwitz and Clara Daniels, Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Coordinator Rebecca Luczaj, Environmental Health Manager Steve Korthof, and Humane Animal Welfare Officer Jill Posanski. Recorded by Mary Pedersen, County Board Office.

Committee Agenda Items

Announcements

DeMares gave an update on Medicaid and the surveyors who visited the Mental Health Center on Monday as a follow-up to concerns they had with some of the center's policies and procedures. These included the transcription of physician orders into the record, AODA programming, and seclusion. Medicare staff believes there should be an AODA program for clients in the hospital in addition to a program available for clients after they are released. DeMares said the recommended AODA program will be implemented and usage of another AODA-related program will be increased. DeMares noted the surveyors visited the center for three days and found no deficiencies.

DeMares, who is retiring, announced his last day with the County is next Wednesday. His replacement is Joan Sternweis. Farrell announced the new Health & Human Services Deputy Director replacing Don Maurer is Antwayne Robertson. Brandtjen added that Administrative Services Manager Russ Kutz is also retiring and his last day with the County is December 28.

Yerke said the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Board still has not received their 2012 grant award notification for the CDBG Program. Yerke indicated 10% was cut last year and he believes an additional 14% will be cut this year.

Brandtjen indicated she was involved in a conference call regarding the Marsh County Alliance and said things are going well. They are currently transferring the remaining patients from the old Clearview building into the new building. Year-end financials should be available in February or March. Of the 26 slots reserved for Waukesha County clients, 24 are full. Brandtjen spoke highly of the facility.

Approve Minutes of 11-10-11

MOTION: Jeskewitz moved, second by Yerke to approve the minutes of November 10. Motion carried 7-0.

Review Correspondence

- New grant application for CDC public health infrastructure grant preparation for voluntary accreditation.

Schedule Next Meeting Date(s)

- January 12

Executive Committee Report of 11-14-11

Brandtjen highlighted the following items from the last Executive Committee meeting.

- Approved the ordinance to extend prohibition of weapons in additional County buildings.
- Heard an update on CDBG and the transition of this program to the Parks & Land Use Department. They also received an update on 2008 flood dollars and current projects.
- Per the request of Supervisor Hutton, discussed the possibility of holding county board committee meetings in the evening. A consensus of the committee felt this was not a good time to make those changes and current start times will remain.

State Legislative Update

Spaeth said the State Department of Corrections is operating at a deficit and is considering cutting Youth Aids even further. For 2012, \$400,000 or 10% was cut from the County's budget and State staff are suggesting an additional 7% cut. Spaeth said she and others will lobby heavily against the additional loss of funding.

Board Agenda Items

Approve Minutes of 11-10-11

MOTION: Paulson moved, second by Jeskewitz to approve the minutes of November 10. Vitale advised of a correction under "Advisory Committee Reports." Motion carried 7-0 as amended.

Advisory Committee Reports

Vitale said the Child & Family Services Advisory Committee heard educational presentations by various agencies on their programming and functions. Farrell indicated the Mental Health Advisory Committee will continue working on their unmet needs list. O'Brien noted that the AODA Advisory Committee heard an update on the emergency homeless shelter and related drug use issues/concerns.

Announcements

Farrell announced that Citizen Member JoAnn Weidmann has resigned from the Health & Human Services Board.

Meeting Approvals

MOTION: Jeskewitz moved, second by Vitale to approve Farrell's attendance at the joint meeting of the Waukesha County Emergency Preparedness Committee and the Wisconsin Health Care Safety Council, held on Friday, December 2, 2011 in Oconomowoc. Motion carried 7-0.

Combined Agenda Items

Educational Presentation on Waukesha County Humane Animal Program

Korthof and Posanski were present to discuss this item. Posanski said they work with local law enforcement on animal abuse and neglect investigations and in 2010, there were 181. Staff are called in when wild animals make their way into people's homes. There have been 581 bite cases so far this year. This figure increases a little each year but is similar to last year's figure. She is responsible for sending specimens to the state lab for rabies testing which in Wisconsin are primarily found in skunks and bats, not domestic animals. They also do West Nile virus surveillance/testing which she said is no longer the threat it once was.

Community education classes include veterinarian clinics on quarantine guidelines, prepping specimens for rabies, etc. and various programs for children including Kids & Critters, summer camps, and the Lunch with a Humane Officer program. Posanski said she writes the Humane Officers in HAWS newsletters and wildlife related blogs.

Emergency assistance is another program area. She referred to the many animals left behind after Hurricane Katrina as an example of emergency assistance. Staff are working on various contingency plans and exercises in case of emergencies. She referenced the wild/exotic animals that got loose in Ohio and indicated we are currently underprepared if a similar event happened here. As exotics are becoming more common, Posanski said her goal in 2012 is to develop a plan for communities to adopt pertaining to exotic animal guidelines and enforcement. As more homes are foreclosed on, more animals are abandoned. Often they are surrendered to the shelter. However, they do not have the proper facilities for livestock such as horses, etc. A livestock plan is currently being developed. She noted that Act 90, the puppy mill bill, was passed at the state level which she explained briefly.

Wolff left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Use of Human Services Residential Funds to Assist with Homeless Program

N. Cummings indicated a group from SOPHIA advised the County Executive of a financial shortfall to operate a homeless shelter in the City of Waukesha due to open in a couple weeks. They received about \$25,000 to \$35,000 in pledges but needs \$50,000 to operate the shelter through the middle of April. N. Cummings said \$25,000 that would otherwise lapse at year-end is available in the Child & Family Residential Services area of the Health & Human Services budget. The Health & Human Services contract with Hebron House, primarily to help people find permanent housing, would be amended to include payment of \$5,000 per month as needed (totaling up to \$25,000 through April). The contract will be monitored as with any other contract. N. Cummings said the shelter is in good shape right now financially. County and shelter staff will discuss more permanent solutions. Vitale said it is urgent that this be looked into as the need for emergency shelters will only get worse.

Committee Agenda Items

Ordinance 166-O-083: Accept Criminal Justice Jag Smarter Sentencing Training 2009 Grant Award Through The Wisconsin Office Of Justice Assistance

Luczaj discussed this ordinance which involves accepting a \$20,153 State grant to host the Research-Based Smarter Sentencing training on January 19 and 20, 2012 at the Country Springs Hotel. The funds will pay for a consultant to conduct the training sessions estimated at \$12,000; participant travel, conference room rental and related costs estimated at \$4,445; printing costs estimated at \$1,500; and countywide and Health & Human Services Department indirect cost recovery estimated at \$2,208.

Luczaj said five of the County's judges, District Attorney Brad Schimel, Sam Benedict of the Public Defender's Office, and a staff member from Probation and Parole will attend the training in addition to agency staff from several southeastern Wisconsin counties. The grant covers the cost for 50 attendees. Waukesha and Eau Claire counties were selected to host the training which will focus on cost-effective alternatives to incarceration, utilizing risk assessments for sentencing purposes, how sentencing can affect recidivism, etc.

MOTION: Jaske moved, second by Cummings to approve Ordinance 166-O-083. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION: Jaske moved, second by Yerke to adjourn the committee meeting at 2:25 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Board Agenda Items

Approve Recredentialing Applications at Mental Health Center

MOTION: Paulson moved, second by Vitale to approve recredentialing applications for James L. Rutherford, M.D. (psychiatry); Carolyn Morse, Ph.D. (psychology); S. John Kim, M.D. (psychiatry); Frank Pletzke, M.D. (psychiatry); Suanne Reed, M.D. (psychiatry); Lynda Dahlke, Ph.D. (psychology); all contingent on Joint Conference Committee approval. Motion carried 7-0.

Announcements

Schuler said Community Health Improvement Planning (CHIP) will continue into April of next year and a public hearing for community input will be held at some point. Also, an announcement will be forthcoming within the next day or two as to who is filling Antwayne Robertson's position as Intake & Support Services Manager.

MOTION: Paulson moved, second by Vitale to adjourn the board meeting at 2:37 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Cummings
Secretary